Postal Services in Villages of Rajasthan

†2329. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether postal-services have been provided in all the villages of Rajasthan;

(b) if not, the villages of the State deprived of the postal services, district-wise;

(c) whether any time-frame has been fixed by Government to provide postal services in all the villages of the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR): (a) to (d) The postal facility of delivery and collection of mails and sale of postal stamps and stationery is available to all the villages in the country, including those in Rajasthan. However, the expansion of postal services by way of opening of new post offices and Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras in the State is subject to the fulfillment of norms and availability of requisite resources.

Setting up of research institutions

2330. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plans to set up research institutions to further skills in free/open source software;

(b) Government funded institutions already utilising free/open source software in a significant manner; and

(c) whether the State Government would be, in any way, encouraged to go in for FS/OSS solutions specially while spreading Information Technology at the educational level?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.